

## **FEEDBACK REPORT - DECEMBER 2000 - MARCH 2001**

This report outlines activities of the Board for the period December 2000 ? March 2001. In that period the Board held 4 meetings.

### **Audit of Service Provision**

The draft Audit of Service Provision has been circulated to the Cork City Development Board. The purpose of the Audit is to list the services delivered within Cork City by public service agencies, local community and voluntary associations (including sports clubs). It will answer the question ?who does what and where?? and will be very important for ensuring that these services are effective.

The Audit can be viewed at the locations listed on the attached Appendix.

The Audit is also displayed on the Board?s website

[www.corkcorp.ie/corkcitydevboard.html](http://www.corkcorp.ie/corkcitydevboard.html)

Any comments, corrections or additional information are welcomed. If your organisation did not reply to the Audit questionnaire, this is another opportunity to do so. Any responses should be sent in by May 5th next to:

Elmarie McCarthy,  
Community and Enterprise Development Officer,  
Cork City Development Board,  
c/o City Hall,  
Cork

Tel. 4924596

### **Strategic Issues**

A report on the Strategic Issues that will help form the City Development Board?s Strategy is attached.

### **Report on the Current Economic, Social and Cultural Situation in Cork City**

The draft Report on Current Economic, Social and Cultural Situation in Cork City has been circulated to the Cork City Development Board. It can be viewed at the same locations as the Audit of Service Provision.

Any comments, corrections or additional information are welcomed. Responses should be sent in by May 5th next.

Michael O?Brien,  
Community and Enterprise Development Officer,  
Cork City Development Board,  
c/o City Hall,  
Cork

Tel. 4924596

## **RAPID Programme**

An information report on the RAPID Programme is attached.

## **Integrated Strategy for Economic, Social and Cultural Development**

The Audit of Service Provision and the Report on the Current Economic, Social and Cultural Situation in Cork City are also part of the preparation of the Cork City Development Board's Integrated Strategy for Economic, Social and Cultural Development.

The Board Members will complete a draft Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities and Threats (SWOT) analysis and agree draft Goals and Objectives for this Integrated Strategy at the Board's April Meeting.

Each community and voluntary association will receive the SWOT Analysis and the draft Goals/Objectives in a few weeks. This will allow you to have input into the Board's Integrated Strategy.

Remember the Strategic Issues were altered as a result of your input, so please get involved at this crucial stage of the Strategy preparation process!

It is important for you to consider the draft goals and objectives carefully. They will form the core of the Development Board's Integrated Strategy.

When the current Local Government Bill becomes law, the Integrated Strategy will be established on a statutory basis. Each public agency will have to proof their plans and projects against the Integrated Strategy to ensure that they will achieve the Strategy's Goals and Objectives.

The Integrated Strategy will also be used in the review of the National Development Plan in 2002.

In each of these ways, the Integrated Strategy will influence which projects and action receive funding. It is thus very important that you ensure your needs are identified and met by the Integrated Strategy.

## APPENDIX

1. Public Office, Town Clerk's Department City Hall
2. Central Library, Grand Parade and Branch Libraries at Ballypheane Douglas, Hollyhill, Mayfield and St. Mary's Road
3. Garda Siochana Stations at Anglesea St, Barrack St., Bishopstown, Blackrock, Bridewell, Douglas, Gurrabraher, Mallow Rd, Mayfield MacCurtain St., Togher and Watercourse Rd.
4. Cathedral Family Resource Centre, Roman St. Cork
5. Churchfield Family Resource Centre, Before 5 Centre, Churchfield Hill
6. Knocknaheeny Family Resource Centre, Harbour View Rd., Knocknaheeny
7. Lotamore Family Resource Centre, 20 Lotamore Park, Mayfield
8. Mahon Family Resource Centre, 22, Lakelands Crescent, Mahon
9. Togher Family Resource Centre, 6, Maglin Grove, Togher
10. Blackpool Citizens Information Centre, 90, Great William O'Brien Street, Blackpool, Cork
11. Blackrock Citizens Information Centre, Convent Road, Blackrock
12. Cork Citizens Information Centre, 80, South Mall, Cork
13. Local Employment Service Office, Government Buildings, Sullivans Quay, Cork
14. Local Employment Service Office, Old Youghal Road, Mayfield, Cork
15. Local Employment Service Office, Blackpool Community Centre, Great William O'Brien Street, Blackpool, Cork
16. Churchfield/Gurrabraher Local Employment Service Office, Parochial Hall, Knockfree Avenue, Fairhill, Cork
17. Hollyhill Local Employment Service, Unit 4b, Hollyhill Shopping Centre, Holyhill, Cork
18. Togher Local Employment Service, Greenwood Estate, Togher, Cork
19. Ballypheane/Togher Community Development Project, Lower Friars Walk, Ballypheane, Cork
20. Farranree Community Development Project, c/o Farranree Family Resource Centre, Closes Green, Farranree
21. Mayfield Community Development Project, Front Office, Newbury House Family Centre, Old Youghal Road, Mayfield, Cork
22. The Travellers Visibility Group, 11, Comeragh Park, The Glen, Cork
23. Cork City Partnership, Sunbeam Industrial Park, Millfield, Mallow Road, Cork
24. We the People, Unit 4, Hollyhill Shopping Centre, Hollyhill, Cork

## **Partnership between the Cork City Development Board and the Communities in Cork City**

The Cork City Development Board has identified over 600 different community and voluntary organisations working within the City. In order to facilitate the participation of these organisations in the development of the Board's Integrated City Strategy, organisations working on similar issues will be invited to form 'communities of interest' or informal networks. This would draw together issue - and area-based groups around common interests.

At present existing networks are being identified and invited to participate in this process. In addition, community and voluntary groups will be invited to form new networks in order to fill gaps or cover issues not being addressed by existing networks. While the Board hopes that these networks will provide structures to consider issues relevant to the Board's work and provide feedback to the Board, the operation of the networks and what they do will be a matter for the networks themselves. It is also hoped that these networks will feed into the Cork City Community Forum.

A list of existing networks already known to the Board is set out below, along with a form for organisations to register an interest in becoming part of a Community of Interest. If you know of any additional issue or area-based networks operational in the City, please let us know through the attached Network Registration Form.

### **NETWORKS/COMMUNITIES OF INTEREST CURRENTLY OPERATING WITHIN CORK CITY**

The following is a list of those issue and area-based networks/communities of interest, which are known to the City Development Board. Each of the networks listed will be contacted with a view to participating in the development of the Strategy.

#### **1. Issue-based Networks/Communities of Interest**

##### **Disability**

- Disability Interest Group (Cork City Partnership)
- Cork Access Group
- Disability Federation of Ireland ? local network
- Cork Network of People with Disabilities in Ireland

##### **Childcare**

- Cork Early Years Network

##### **Education and Training**

- Southside Community Education Network
- Mahon/Blackrock Education Network
- Mayfield Community Education Network
- Knocknaheeny/Churchfield Education Network
- Cathedral/Shandon/Blackpool Education Network
- Farranree Education Network
- Network of 9 adult literacy schemes
- Cork Association of Principals and Deputies
- Primary School Principals? Network

## **Youth**

- Parents Support Group (U.P.P.S.)
- Ballypheane Action for Youth
- Southside Parents Supporting Parents
- Mahon Youth Network
- Churchfield/Gurranabraher Youth Network

## **Travellers**

- Cork Travellers Visibility Group
- Cork Traveller Women's Network

## **Older People**

- Cork Older Womens' Network

## **Arts/Culture**

- Cork Arts Development Committee

## **Environment**

- Cork Environmental Forum

## **Immigrants/Asylum Seekers**

- Integrate Cork (asylum seekers/immigrant representative group)
2. **Area-based Networks/Communities of Interest**
- Community Associations (Ballinlough, Ballypnehane, Bishopstown, Blackpool, Blackrock, Blarney St, Churchfield, Douglas, Farranree, Lough, Mahon, Middle Parish, South Parish, St Joseph's, Togher)
  - Community Development Projects (Ballypnehane/Togher, Farranree, Mahon, Mayfield, We the People ? Knocknaheeny/Hollyhill)
  - Magnet (the Glen)

## Network Registration Form

1. Name and Address of Organisation:

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2. Is your organisation part of an existing network?

Yes \_\_\_ No \_\_\_

If yes: Name of network: \_\_\_\_\_

What issue/area does your network serve?

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3. If not already part of a network/community of interest, would your group be interested in becoming part of a new network?

Yes \_\_\_ No \_\_\_

If yes, what type of network would be most appropriate for your group (please specify)?

Issue based \_\_\_\_\_

Area Based \_\_\_\_\_

Thank you for your co-operation

Please return to:  
Michael O'Brien,  
Community and Enterprise Development Officer,  
Cork City Development Board,  
c/o City Hall,  
Cork

Tel. 4924596

Michael is also the contact if you require further information or assistance.

## **The RAPID Programme**

RAPID stands for Revitalising Areas by Planning, Investment and Development. Following a commitment in the Programme for Prosperity and Fairness, an integrated focus on the 25 most disadvantaged areas in the state will direct the social inclusion measures in the National Development Plan.

There are four RAPID areas in Cork City (see maps attached):

1. Knocknaheeny/Churchfield
2. Fairhill/Gurranabraher/Farranree
3. Blackpool/The Glen, Mayfield
4. Togher and Mahon

These areas will get priority from public agencies for investment and development, in order to bring them closer to average conditions in the City. RAPID can work on a very wide range of issues. These may include, for example:

- Health
- Education
- Housing
- Childcare
- Sports facilities
- Youth development
- Drugs misuse
- Policing

The most important issues will be identified locally. A leaflet is being prepared and will be delivered to each household in an area covered by RAPID.

At local level in each of the 4 RAPID areas named above there will be an:

- Area Implementation Team bringing together State Agency personnel, the Partnership Company, residents of the local community and the Local Drugs Task Force.
- Local co-ordinator to deliver the Programme.
- Local Forum to choose the representatives of local residents for the Area Implementation Team and to participate in the delivery of the RAPID Programme. A draft remit for the local forum is attached. The final remit will be agreed by the forum itself within the RAPID guidelines (a contact form for inclusion in the local forum is attached).

The Local Co-ordinator will have 3 tasks:

1. identify the needs of the area with the local community and Area Implementation Team
2. define the best approaches to meeting these needs
3. ensure available services and investments are delivered in a co-ordinated way

Actual delivery of services and projects will be a matter for individual agencies using the resources in the National Development Plan.

The 4 local RAPID Areas will be co-ordinated by a City Monitoring Group operating as a working Group of the City Development Board. The City Monitoring Group will consist of:

- State Agency Personnel
- Each pillar of the Social Partners including representative of the Cork City Community Forum
- Elected local councillors

This Monitoring Group will have input into the plans of each RAPID Area Implementation Team and will play a role in ensuring the co-ordinated delivery of services and investment to these areas.

#### **Local Authority Social Inclusion Unit**

The Department of the Environment and Local Government will provide funding to establish Social Inclusion Units in each Local Authority with a RAPID Programme. This unit will be established in Cork Corporation over the next few months.

**RAPID Local Forum Registration Form**

Which RAPID Area Forum do you wish to participate in?:

- 1. Knocknaheeny/Churchfield
- 2. Fairhill/Gurranabraher/Farranree
- 3. Blackpool/The Glen, Mayfield
- 4. Togher and Mahon

(delete those that you do not want to participate in)

Name and Address of Organisation:

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What are the activities of your organisation?

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Signed: \_\_\_\_\_

Position: \_\_\_\_\_

Contact No.: \_\_\_\_\_

Thank you for your co-operation

Please return to:

Patrick Ledwidge,  
Community and Enterprise Development Officer,  
Cork City Development Board,  
c/o City Hall,  
Cork

Tel. 4924596

## **PROPOSED REMIT FOR RAPID LOCAL AREA FORA**

### **Forum objectives/functions:**

The key objectives of the RAPID area Fora should be:

- To represent community views on priorities for action within the RAPID programme for their area;
- To identify needs and propose actions/work programmes to tackle these priorities under the RAPID programme in conjunction with the Local Co-ordinator and the Area Implementation Team;
- To agree and appoint community members to the Area Implementation Team and any Task Groups working on these priority issues;
- To monitor progress for the local communities on implementation of the RAPID work programmes;
- To participate in the evaluation of success/achievements of any elements within these programmes;
- To facilitate debate and agreement on approaches and working methods adopted for implementing the RAPID programme.

### **Forum membership**

Membership of the Forum should potentially be:

- All local community, social, sporting, residents or other groupings interested in representing the local community's interest in advancing the programme.
- Local residents and service users with practical experience of the issues being worked on by RAPID (unemployed residents, health service users, parents of young children etc).
- Membership should remain open to new groups and/or individuals, as agreed by the Forum.
- State agency representatives will make themselves available to attend Forum meetings if requested.

### **Working methods**

The Forum should potentially adopt a series of agreed working practices which allow it to operate effectively:

- Meetings should be held at times and places which suit the needs of the community;
- A chair (from the community) should be appointed, for a fixed term. All agenda setting etc., should be agreed by the Chair.
- Childcare facilities should be provided or arranged;
- All meetings should be publicly advertised;
- Notes of meetings and agendas should be distributed to all members one week prior to meetings;
- Specific practices (on how to input into meetings, respectfulness etc) should be debated and adopted at an early meeting;
- All reports on progress should be accessible and easily understandable by all members of the Forum.

### **Reporting to the Community**

The Forum should adopt a method which is locally practical of ensuring that the wider community knows of its actions and those of the RAPID programme.

## STRATEGIC ISSUES

The Strategic Issues were sent out in draft form to 615 community and voluntary organisations for comment in early September 2000.

Each community and voluntary organisation was requested to rate the list of 26 draft strategic issues on a scale of 1-5.

As a result of the responses received, new issues were added. The revised list of strategic issues is contained in Appendix 1. Each issue has a set of sub-issues deemed to be important, which will influence the integration of these issues into the Board's Strategy. Additional items suggested by community and voluntary organisations are in italics.

These strategic issues have been used to form the basis of the Board's SWOT Analysis and Goals/Objectives. A draft paper on each will be circulated to each community and voluntary organisation shortly.

The final list of Strategic Issues approved at the January Meeting of the Cork City Development Board are:

1. **External Influences:**
  - o Position in Global economy
  - o EU Policy
  - o National Policy e.g. National Spatial Strategy
  - o Agenda 21
  - o Dublin/Belfast corridor
  - o Galway and BMW Region
  - o County strategy
  - o Boundaries between City and County
2. **Human Resource Development:**
  - o Enterprise
  - o Skills shortages
  - o Education/ Training/Development
  - o Life-long learning
  - o Barriers to employment
  - o Immigration
  - o Childcare: shortage of places
  - o Alternative recruitment routes
  - o Cost of housing/living
3. **Cork's Image:**
  - o Inward investment
  - o Tourism / Visitors
  - o Environment - litter
  - o 'Second city' syndrome
4. **Housing:**
  - o Social mix in housing stock
  - o Cork Corporation maintenance of housing stock and surrounding land ?  
?Estate Management?
  - o New housing estates being built without services or amenities, especially community facilities
  - o Homelessness
5. **The Social Economy:**
  - o Potential for development in future
6. **Participation:**
  - o Inclusiveness
  - o Women in politics

7. **Supporting Infrastructure and Public Transport.**
  - Traffic congestion
  - Pedestrianisation and cycle lanes
  - Infrastructure provision
  - Waste
  - Numbers of people spilling out onto the streets of the city after pubs and clubs at night
  - Accessibility to employment
8. **Identity:**
  - Local village identity within city
  - Pride, competition, sense of belonging -?My place?
  - Place names
  - Signage: design, multi-lingual
  - Flags/ Banners
  - Traffic, car-culture, pedestrians
  - Packaging/branding
9. **Volunteerism:**
  - Need for volunteers
  - Or lack thereof, how to encourage it, promote it?
  - Impact of prosperity on volunteering
  - Relevance of volunteer experience for future employment prospects
10. **Social inclusion (1): (Facilities)**
  - Local access to open facilities, clubs etc;
  - Fees.
  - Community/ recreational facilities.
  - Economic resources.
  - Public money used for facilities- should be accessible by all
  - Provision of additional playing pitches
  - Importance of sport in community development
  - Community development
  - Libraries
  - Community Caretaking
  - Playgrounds for children with disabilities
11. **Social inclusion (2): (Marginalised groups)**
  - a. **Asylum seekers:**
    - Racism, work, social /cultural issues, gender imbalance
    - Supposed connection to prostitution and other anti-social activities
    - Asylum issues
  - b. **People with disabilities**
    - Issues affecting people with MS
    - Issues affecting people with sight problems
    - Issues affecting people with hearing difficulties
  - c. **Travellers**
    - Traveller issues
  - d. **Lone parents**
    - single parent families
  - e. **Long-term unemployed**
    - poverty trap, dependency syndrome: supported by state funds
12. **Social inclusion (3): (Education and Training)**
  - Buildings
  - Education
  - Finance
  - Training
  - Literacy
  - Early school leaving (including pre/in-service teacher training focused on early school leaving)

- 13. Holistic approach to development:**
- Integrated funding
  - Business and voluntary partnerships
  - Co-operation re: funding, research and volunteer schemes
  - Link between voluntary and statutory sectors
- 14. Youth services /Young Offenders:**
- 'Breaking the cycle'
  - Prevention
  - Government programmes must complement rather than contradict each other
  - Drugs issue
  - Youth employment schemes
  - Support and education (not necessarily main stream education)
  - Youth alcohol abuse
- 15. Childcare:**
- Crèche facilities a necessity if parents are to avail of courses/ facilities/work
  - Parenting skills
  - Grandparents: as part of the social economy
  - Problem of irregular school week.
  - Effect of Child-Care Act on standards in Childcare facilities
  - Position of family centres
  - 'Early Starts' in Schools - strict entry requirements.
  - Support for parent/toddler groups
- 16. Elderly population:**
- Growing population
  - Changing demographics
  - People moving away from the city and into the suburbs and surrounding towns
  - Accommodation for elderly
  - Carers support, respite
  - Grant support
  - Human contact
  - Home Help
- 17. Distinctiveness, Character, Holistic approach:**
- Multiculturalism ethnicity, diversity
  - Inter-culturalism
  - Local social support networks
  - Scales of city
  - Quality
  - Design: Visual impact
  - Unified livery for taxis
  - Links to regions outside Cork
  - Cork as a European city
  - Harbour cruises
  - Contact with Twin Cities
- 18. Communications:**
- Media: how people receive information
  - Papers which people buy/read and the type of information, which they provide
- 19. Foci:**
- Buildings, landmarks, archives, libraries, museums, galleries
  - Fountains, trees, litter, traditional materials
  - Breweries (possibility of tours)
  - Markets
  - Use of public space
- 20. Quality of life:**
- Maintenance and improvement of standard of living
  - Relevant 'Indicators from National Spatial Strategy'

- 21. **Our Cultural Awareness**
  - Traditions, culture
  - Famous people e.g. Frank O'Connor, Rory Gallagher
  - Celebrating famous Cork women
  - Local history, heritage
  - Change of attitudes
  - Everyday relevance of culture
  - Civics
  - Joan Denise Moriarty should be remembered
- 22. **Cultural Activities:**
  - Language, literature, dance, theatre and music
  - Festivals
  - Summer activities: Possible link to festivals
  - Food and Drink
  - Shipping / Maritime
  - Minority activities
  - Summer activities for young people and elderly
  - Enriching Cork culture through music
  - Cork as a nucleus of cultural activity
  - Youth dance celebration
- 23. **Competitiveness / Assets of City:**
  - Technological base
  - Innovation potential
  - Clustering Potential
  - Information age
  - New activities
  - Educational institutions
  - Low cost structure:
  - Good infrastructure
  - Improved Air, sea and rail access
  - Twin Cities
- 24. **Personal Safety:**
  - Road safety
  - Speeding
  - Neighbourhood safety
  - Development of community guard service
  - Vandalism
  - Animal welfare
- 25. **Environmental Issues:**
  - Clean up streets with regard to construction crews
  - Local urban sustainability and self sufficiency
- 26. **Health**
  - Mental health
  - Wider health issues
  - Health education